



# Forecaster

Faith Lutheran Church \* September 2024



## How do we trust God when bad things keep happening?

### Trust God's Character

He is compassionate, merciful, gracious, kind, holy, truthful, and just. He has a purpose for everything He does.

### Trust God's Word

There are numerous examples in God's Word of ordinary people who had to endure what seemed to be unjust and extremely difficult circumstances. For instance, when we look at the suffering of Job, of Joseph in the Old Testament, and of Jesus, our first thought may be, "God, where were You? They didn't deserve that!"

Of course, we know the end of the story in each case:

- Job lost all he had. He didn't understand his circumstances, yet he worshipped God and said, "Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him" ([Job 13:15](#)). In the end, Job's blessings were restored.
- Joseph was sold into slavery by his own family, lied about, thrown into prison even though innocent, and he was forgotten by a friend. Yet through it all, he trusted God; ultimately, he was used by God to save millions during a great famine.
- Jesus was holy and without sin, yet He was forsaken, beaten, and nailed to a cross to die a criminal's death. Although Jesus was God's Son, He still had to choose to trust, "Father...not My will, but Yours, be done" ([Luke 22:42](#)). The end result: He bought salvation for the whole world by enduring the cross.

### Trust God's Sovereignty

We don't know how the story of our suffering will bring good. We must choose to trust God even in the darkness. God is in complete control and He is eternal. Since He is not bound by time, He can see the whole picture all at once. His Word tells us He doesn't think the way we do. "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts" ([Isaiah 55:8-9](#)).

We may not see now, or even before we die, what God is doing in and through our most difficult circumstances, but we can be certain He is working all things for good, according to His will, and we can certainly trust God when bad things happen.

*-borrowed from lwf.org*



Dear Family of Faith:

We have so much to be thankful for the past months and in September!

- FaithWear will be available again very soon with sweatshirts – YEA!
- God's Work, Our Hands will be September 8th
- Christmas in July collected gift cards and cash for a total of \$1220.00!
- Baseball, bingo and ice cream made the summer months fun!
- Summer BBQ is coming on September 28<sup>th</sup>!
- Soles for Souls collected 355 pairs of shoes!
- Sunday School has started!
- "Meniffee Reads!", our new Book Club will be starting this month!
- We continue to collect food for the Meniffee Community Cupboard - Soup for September!
- We continue to visit our homebound folks and take them communion.

As we look around at all the fabulous projects and programs I feel sometimes that we are like the "Little Engine that Could" or like that watch that "keeps on ticking".

Please keep the Council in your prayers and know that we are here to serve. If you have ideas or questions, please reach out to any Council member. Our next meeting is September 30th, and all are welcome to attend!

God's Blessings,  
Diane Swarts, Council President



Asst. Ministers	Lectors	Power Point	Ushers	Greeters	Attendance
1st: Roderick	1st: Amy	1st: Candy	1st: Annie	1st: Marlene	1st: Kandie
8th: Joanne	8th: Steve	8th: Mike	8th: Annie	8th: Marlene	8th: Pat Olson
15th: Steve	15th: Kathy	15th: Lynn	15th: Judy Appel	15th: TBD	15th: TBD
22nd: Candy	22nd: Marlene	22nd: Bill	22nd: Gina	22nd: Dave	22nd: Shirley
29th: Marlene	29th: Bill	29th: Lynn	29th: Judy Appel	29th: TBD	29th: TBD
Altar Guild: 1st, 8th, 15th: Marlene, Kay 22nd, 29th: Kandie					



## Hunger Never Rests!

**The Menifee Valley Community Cupboard is in  
need of  
canned soup for September!**

Your donations are always welcome and needed! Bring your donations to the church office during our regular hours or you may drop your items off at The Cupboard at 26944 Cherry Hills Blvd (951/301-4414). When you drop off your donations, please inform the Community Cupboard you are from Faith Lutheran. If you are a Thrivent member you may wish to use your Thrivent Action Card to purchase up to \$250.00 of food for the Cupboard. For more information, call Diane Swarts at (949) 500-7986.

*Diane Swarts - Community Cupboard Liaison*

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## Pastor Ken's Thursday Zoom Bible Study!

"Lord, teach us to pray," Jesus' disciples asked Him. Have you ever pondered what the Lord's Prayer means for you in your daily life? Pastor Ken Puccio has been teaching a Zoom Bible Study on the Lord's Prayer on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 7:00 pm and he invites all of you, the members of his new church family, to join in!

He's up to the Third Petition but can easily catch you up. To participate, send him an email at [hopegiver@aol.com](mailto:hopegiver@aol.com) and let him know you'd like to participate. He'll send you copies of the lessons already completed, along with the log in and password information.

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## Menifee Reads! Book Club

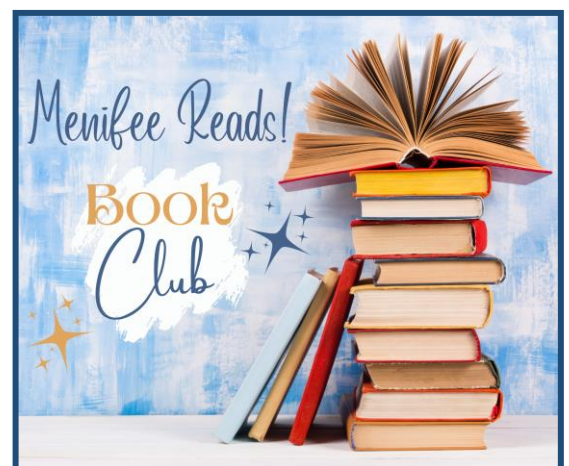
Menifee Reads! debuts on September 18th at 7:00pm! Come and learn how this public group activity will operate!

The first book selection (to be discussed at the October meeting) will be announced.

Bring a small appetizer/snack to share.

Please plan to take all leftovers home!

Join our Facebook Group, invite your friends and plan to attend!! [Menifee Reads! \(a book club\)](#)

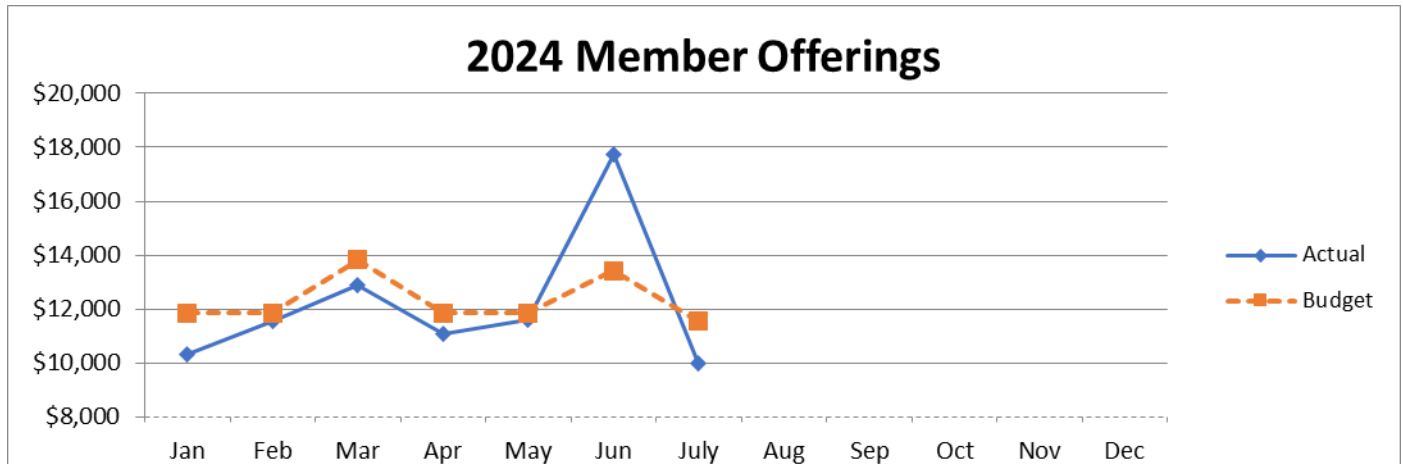


## FINANCIAL REPORT

### July 31, 2024

#### 1. Comments

- a. Member giving was below budget this month, although we are nearly on budget YTD.
- b. Total Income for the month was dramatically below budget. **This is because we had budgeted \$12,000 as income from the land sale which has not yet completed.** This is also the reason our Net Operating Income shows a sizable loss instead of the expected large surplus.
- c. Even without the land sale income this month, we are still doing very well. Our New Pastor Reserve Fund has grown to over \$57,000 during this transition time by transferring unspent Pastoral Expense each month to this “savings” account on our balance sheet.
- d. We are using some of the money we aren’t spending on a full-time pastor to compensate Pastor Shane for providing Pastoral Care to our congregation during our transition. If you would like to talk with him, just call the Church Office and Lynn will get you connected.



#### 2. Financials Review

- a. Offering Envelopes
  - i) **For the month**, significantly below budget at 86.5% (\$9,984 vs \$11,538).
  - ii) **Year-to-date**, on budget at 98.7% (\$85,080 vs \$86,167).
- b. Total Income
  - i) **For the month**, significantly below budget at 51.8% (\$13,139 vs \$25,391).
  - ii) **Year-to-date**, below budget at 90.7% (\$123,607 vs \$136,361).
- c. Expenses
  - i) **For the month**, slightly over budget at 106.3% (\$18,652 vs \$17,551).
  - ii) **Year-to-date**, under budget at 95.0% (\$123,334 vs \$129,788).
- d. Net Operating Income (Total Income minus Expenses)
  - i) **For the month**, a loss of \$5,513 vs the expected surplus of \$7,839.
  - ii) **Year-to-date**, a surplus of \$273 vs the expected surplus of \$6,573.
- e. Checking balance
  - i) **Balance at Month-end** is \$3,302.
  - ii) **Previous Month-end balance** was \$9,294.





### BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS

To

Sept. 2  
Sept. 8  
Sept. 9  
Sept. 15  
Sept. 17  
Sept. 18  
Sept. 19  
Sept. 29

Connie Gibson  
Gina Howe  
Valerie Holmes  
Linda Blanche  
David Moe  
Tina Peteroski  
Ellie Nony  
Emma Peteroski



### ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

To

Sept. 21

Lucas & Amber Conception



If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please notify the church office so we can add you to our list!



## Soles4Souls Update

Representing Faith Lutheran Church, Candy Pellechio and Kathy Kent delivered another **355** pairs of shoes to Soles4Souls in August! A total of **536** pairs have been donated since the launch of this outreach initiative in February 2024!

Let's keep up the outstanding work supporting this initiative!





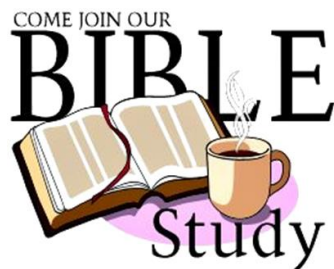
### ***Greetings dear Women of Faith!***

Welcome to September! Since Bea Olsen is still enjoying her “cool” summer vacation in Minnesota, it is my turn to write the Women of the ELCA Forecaster article. Bea come back....we miss you!!! As summer is coming to an end and we look forward to cooler weather we have plenty of activities/events to keep us busy.

**Snip ‘n Stitch:** NO SEWING EXPERIENCE NEEDED ... there are plenty of tasks that don’t require you to know how to use a sewing machine so we would love to have you join us. We previously have donated quilts to the women’s shelter, Alternatives to Domestic Violence and small quilts to the Menifee Police Department for them to hand out to children going through trauma.



***NOTE: Keep the Snip ‘n Stitch group in mind if you come across fabric, sewing machines, or other sewing accessories that are being donated!***



***Mary’s Circle*** is continuing their study from Gather Magazine, meeting on the second Wednesday of the month, September 11, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

***Evening Circle (Lydia)*** is studying Women in the Bible. At our September 12, 2024 gathering, we will be discussing Mary, Mother of Jesus. Study begins at 6:00 p.m.

Please join us for one (or both) bible studies. I have found that listening to others’ perspectives has been very insightful. Come, join in the conversation and fellowship!

### **Meetings:**

**September General Meeting** is scheduled for Saturday, September 21, 2024 and our speakers’ topic for discussion will be COURAGEOUS CONVERSATION...what is most important and meaningful when faced with a serious illness. The speakers will be:

- Gloria Sanchez – Chairperson for Senior Advisory Committee Menifee  
Gloria Sanchez has been an advocate for seniors and seniors with disabilities for the past 25 years. She is actively involved in serving her fellow residents, not only in Menifee, but all Riverside County, the State and is a member of the National Family Caregivers Advisory Council in Washington DC. She serves as Chair of the City of Menifee Senior Advisory Committee--a committee that reaches out to seniors to identify their needs and recommends policy to City Council. She is actively involved in organizing and facilitating Senior Workshops which include topics on SCAMS, Identity Theft/Fraud, Transportation, Medicare Fraud and Emergency Preparedness for Seniors.
- Kristi Necochea – Community Liaison, Hospice of the Valleys  
For the past 14 years Kristi Necochea, Director of Community Relations at Hospice of the Valleys, has helped families facilitate courageous conversations involving senior care, aging

and hospice. Education on these hard to discuss topics empowers patients and families to make more informed decisions during an often difficult and challenging time.

- **Linda Blanche – Community Service Liaison, Miller Jones Memorial Park and Mortuary**  
Linda has worked for Miller Jones Memorial Park and Mortuary for 6 years; ranging from Service Director to Community Service Liaison. She is a member of the Menifee Senior Advisory Committee, VFW Post 1956 auxiliary, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Committee, and Youth Leaders of Menifee Committee.

Join us for lunch and great conversations.....we look forward to a packed Fellowship Hall!!!

**December General Meeting** is scheduled for December 14, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. Plans are progressing for our Christmas luncheon and Party with a Purpose.

**Annual Fundraiser:** This Year's Fundraiser was such fun and a great success, raising \$1,415 for The Care Project. To guarantee continued success, we are beginning to plan next year's fundraiser which will be held Saturday, June 21, 2025. We have a few ideas for organizations to support, but we wanted to open it up to the *Women of Faith Lutheran Church* to provide suggestions for the organization you would like us to support--those that are close to your heart, who have supported you or your family during difficult times, provided needed resources, etc. Please let us know your ideas by e-mailing me at [cgibson902@live.com](mailto:cgibson902@live.com) and I'll present them to the Women of the ELCA Board for discussion.

**The Pacifica W-ELCA Convention and Gathering** on October 18-19, 2024 will be held at Spirit of our Savior, San Bernardino (*please note the location change*). More information to come.

#### Happening this month:

- **September 05, 2024:** Snip 'n Stitch, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- **September 10, 2024:** Women of the ELCA Board Meeting, 12:30 p.m.
- **September 11, 2024:** Mary Circle Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.
- **September 19, 2024:** Snip 'n Stitch, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- **September 19, 2024:** Evening Bible Study, 6:00 p.m.
- **September 21, 2024:** Women of the ELCA General Meeting, 10:00 a.m.

#### Coming in October:

- **October 18-19, 2024:** Pacifica W-ELCA Convention and Gathering
- **October 20, 2024:** Thankoffering Sunday

*In Christ's Love,*  
*Connie Gibson, Women of the ELCA Secretary*





## **WISH LIST: OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE**

### **What is God calling you to do?**

**The Faith Church Council would like to invite you to take an active role in our Ministries. Here are some of the positions available.**

**Treasurer/Finance Committee Chairperson.** Please speak with any church council member for more information.

**Musician/Accompanist** to play piano, organ, guitar, during worship on Sunday mornings. For information call Marlene Rosselli (805)405-6938.

**Facilities & Property Maintenance.** The upkeep of the facilities requires many hands and a variety of skills. Contact Frank Ehrig to help out (951)316-7252.

**Technical Support** for Computers, Sound System, Multimedia, and Live Streaming. Please speak to Steve Kent (347)344-8055 for more information.

**New Member Coordinator** to welcome visitors and new members. Contact Candy Pellechio (908)601-4540, for further information.

**Special Music.** Vocals, Instrumentals, Groups, or Soloists to perform during worship. Contact Marlene Rosselli (805)405-6938 for information.

**Sunday School Assistants** needed. Contact Amy Sinclair for more information (562)714-0707.

**Coffee Hour after Worship.** Get together with a few others and sign-up to prepare coffee and treats on Sunday morning. Contact Connie Gibson (909)635-4497 for information and to sign up.

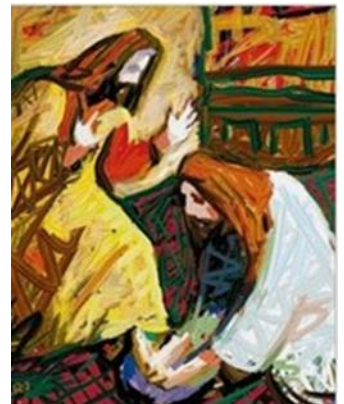
**PowerPoint Operators** during worship services. Contact the office, to be trained and to be added to the schedule (951)679-1518.

**Pickup Truck.** The Outreach Team needs your help to deliver our shoe donations to the San Bernardino warehouse a few times a year. Please contact Candy Pellechio (908)601-4540.

**Thank you for considering these ministry opportunities!**

Do you know something that belongs on our Wish List? Please contact Amy Sinclair (562)714-0707.

***We Got It Covered! Thank you, Volunteers!*** Thanks to the two members who volunteered to be our Pet Blessing Coordinators for our Fall event. Thank you to those who volunteered to run Concessions during the Vagabond Theater Group 6 performances in October in our Fellowship Hall.





**God's work. Our hands.****Sept. 8  
2024**

ADVOCACY IN SERVICE TO OUR NEIGHBOR

Next Sunday, the 8th is God's Work Our Hands Sunday!! There is still time to donate any or all of the following items: toothbrushes, toothpaste (travel size), disposable razors, shaving cream (3.7 oz), pick combs for Central City Lutheran Mission in San Bernardino!

For questions, please call or talk to Debbie Ehrig, 951.317.5977. Thank you for all the ways we do God's Work, Our Hands!



*Wear Your T-Shirt Sunday is  
September 29th!*

Plan to wear your t-shirt to church on September 29<sup>th</sup>!!

**MORE FAITHWEAR IS COMING SOON!**

Watch for new and different items available for sale  
in October!

## Faith & Blue

Faith Lutheran will be one of the Menifee churches to participate in Faith & Blue with the Menifee Police Department and other local faith organizations. The event, on October 5, 2024 from 1-4 pm at the Kay Cenicerros Senior Center, will benefit MilVet.

We will be helping to assemble 200 care packages for service members.  
Please plan to attend and watch for more information and sign up soon.  
(This will be a great opportunity to wear your FaithWear!)





## Meniffee Fall Festival

Meniffee's Fall Festival will be on October 19, 4-8 pm. The Outreach Committee will need some **PEOPLE POWER** to **HELP** in the Faith Lutheran Church booth at the festival, which gets an estimated attendance of 5,000!! We will have a MilVet activity, information about Faith Lutheran to share, a kid's activity, and a free quilt raffle.

We could use a few people to help in the booth!  
(another great opportunity to wear our t-shirts!)

Please see Candy Pellechio or Kathy Kent.

## Congratulations, Amy Rae!

Congratulations to Amy Rae Meckler who graduated from Val Verde High School at the end of May! We're all so proud of you and can't wait to see what comes next for you!



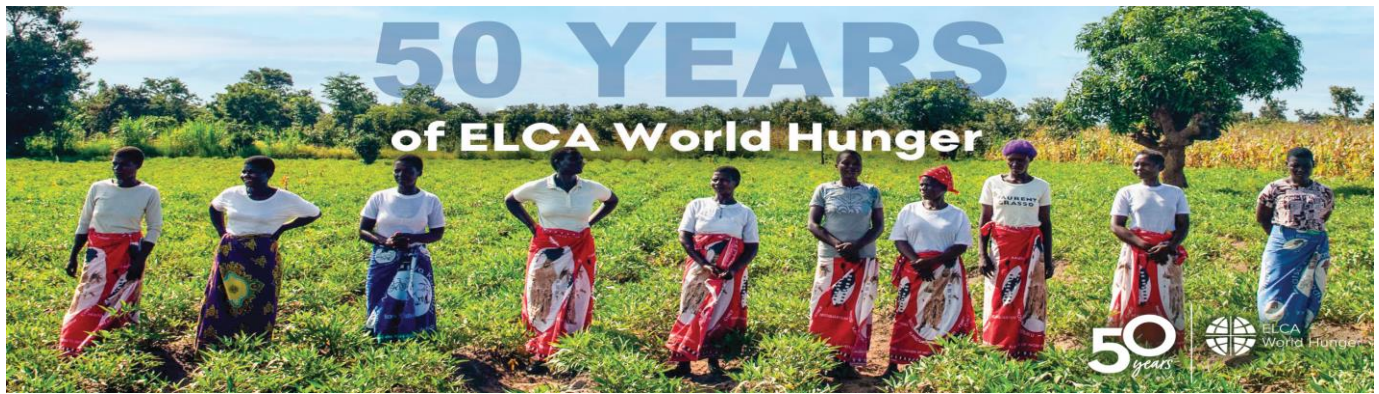
## Summer BBQ!

Faith Lutheran Church Fellowship invites you to a Summer BBQ (Grill)!  
Saturday, September 28, 2024 starting at 4:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall  
and on the patio.

We will provide: Hamburgers, veggie burgers and hot dogs with  
all the trimmings.

We will provide bottled water. BYODrink if you want something else!

Don't just attend church!  
Love your church, serve, give,  
join, worship, engage!



***“Let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.” —1 John 3:18***

For 50 years we have joined together as Lutherans to address the root causes of hunger and poverty around the world through ELCA World Hunger. Part of our church’s long tradition of meeting human needs, ELCA World Hunger testifies to our hope for and commitment to God’s promise of a time when we will hunger and thirst no more. In 2024 we will commemorate the 50th anniversary of this ministry. We have made great strides, but once again we face a startling increase in global hunger. As we reflect on our last 50 years of ministry together, we know God calls us to respond to the needs of the world now more than ever.

**Join us and be part of the story of our next 50 years together — boldly and faithfully pursuing God’s promise of a just world where all are fed.**

## **World Food Day**

**Celebrating 50 Years of ELCA World Hunger**

**When:** Tuesday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m. Central time

**Where:** Zoom webinar

**REGISTER HERE**

This special online event will be hosted by the Rev. Amy Current, bishop of the Southeastern Iowa Synod, and Imran Siddiqui, vice president of the ELCA.

Tune in on Oct. 15 to hear firsthand stories from partners at ELCA World Hunger projects — including Educación Popular en Salud (EPES), a community health organization in Chile founded over 40 years ago, and more recent starts such as Tapestry Farms, a Midwestern urban farm system in the “Quad Cities” of Iowa and Illinois. You’ll see the impact of 50 years of ELCA World Hunger work and get excited and equipped to be a part of the next 50 years!

Register at the link above to receive reminders, event information, World Food Day resources and the event recording.

### **Faith Lutheran Church**

28200 Portsmouth Drive, Menifee, CA 92586

**Office Phone:** (951) 679-1518 | **Email:** [FaithLutheranMenifee@gmail.com](mailto:FaithLutheranMenifee@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.faithmenifee.com](http://www.faithmenifee.com)

**Church Office Hours:** Tues & Thurs 8:30am-5:00pm | Fri 8:30am-12:30pm



# September 2024

September 2024							October 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30						29	30	31				

September 2024

Forecaster

Page 12

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Sep 1 AM: Roderick; Lector: Amy; PPT: Candy 9:30am Worship Service	2 AM: Roderick; Lector: Amy; PPT: Candy 9:30am Worship Service	3 10:00am Worship & Music	4	5 9:00am Snip 'N Stitch	6 10:30am AI-Anon	7
8 God's Work Our Hands AM: Joanne; Lector: Steve; PPT: Mike 9:30am Worship Service	9 1:00pm Strategic Planning 6:30pm Vagabond Rehearsal	10 12:30pm WELCA Board 3:30pm Outreach Team 6:30pm Vagabond Rehearsal	11 10:00am Mary Circle Bible Study 2:00pm Remembering & Honoring 6:30pm Vagabond Rehearsal	12 4:00pm Cheer/Eucharistic Team 7:00pm Pr. Ken's Zoom Bible Study	13 10:30am AI-Anon	14
15 AM: Steve; Lector: Kathy; PPT: Lynn 9:30am Worship Service	16 AM: Steve; Lector: Kathy; PPT: Lynn 9:30am Worship Service	17 10:00am 4 Plus 1 Group-In Person 2:00pm Fellowship Team 6:30pm Vagabond Rehearsal	18 1:00pm Finance Team-In Person & Zoom 7:00pm Menifee Reads: Book Club	19 9:00am Snip 'N Stitch 6:00pm WELCA Bible Study-In Person & Zoom 6:30pm Vagabond Rehearsal	20 10:00am Stewardship-In Person & Zoom 10:30am AI-Anon 6:30pm Vagabond Rehearsal	21 10:00am WELCA General Meeting
22 AM: Candy; Lector: Mars; PPT: Bill 9:30am Worship Service 6:30pm Vagabond Rehearsal	23 Forecaster Deadline	24 6:30pm Vagabond Rehearsal	25	26 6:30pm Vagabond Rehearsal 7:00pm Pr. Ken's Zoom Bible Study	27 10:30am AI-Anon 6:30pm Vagabond Rehearsal	28 4:00pm Summer BBQ
29 AM: Mars; Lector: Bill; PPT: Lynn Wear Your FLC Shirt Sunday 9:30am Worship Service 6:30pm Vagabond	30 1:00pm Council-In Person & Zoom	Oct 1	2	3	4	5